



## **DOUGLAS P. BLACK, M.P.A.**

### **Director**

### **Office of Tribal Programs**

### **Indian Health Service**

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Douglas Black, a member of the Seneca Nation of Indians of New York, began his career in 1972 with the Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) and worked in a variety of agencies including the Alcohol, Drug Abuse, and Mental Health Administration, the National Institutes of Health, and the Health Resources and Services Administration. In 1982, Mr. Black entered the Indian Health Service (IHS) as a Program Analyst in the Office of Planning, Evaluation and Legislation. During his early career in the IHS, Mr. Black worked in various positions of responsibility. In 1985, he was named Director of Community Services and Urban Program Coordinator in the Office of Tribal Activities (OTA). Mr. Black remained with OTA, assuming positions of greater responsibility, and in 1989 he was promoted to the post of Acting Associate Director. In 1991, Mr. Black was named to the position on a permanent basis. In 1997, IHS Headquarters was reorganized and OTA was transferred to the Office of the Director and renamed the Office of Tribal Programs (OTP).

As OTP Director, Mr. Black is responsible for a wide range of Agency functions that are critical to the IHS's relationship with Tribal leaders, organizations, and other American Indian and Alaska Native groups. The OTP is the Agency's principal liaison with national Indian organizations and more than 560 federally recognized Tribes. Mr. Black directs a national program with various responsibilities that include policy development and technical assistance concerning Title I Indian Self-Determination contracting; policy and operational responsibilities for management of the \$260 million contract support cost program; technical assistance to those Tribes that continue to receive health care directly from the IHS; oversight to ensure that the Agency's requirement for Tribal consultation is met; and policy development concerning the integration of newly recognized Tribes into the IHS system.

As Director, OTP, Mr. Black is responsible for a wide range of Agency functions that are critical to the IHS's relationships with Tribal leaders, organizations, and other American Indian and Alaska Native groups. The OTP is the Agency's principal liaison with Indian organizations and more than 560 federally recognized Tribes in 35 states. Mr. Black directs a national program that provides information, technical assistance, and policy coordination in support of Indian Self-Determination. He was instrumental in the regulations development of the Indian Self-Determination and Education Assistance Act, P.L. 93-638. This Act provides the mechanism for American Indian and Alaska Native Tribes to contract with the Federal Government for the administration of health care to their Tribal members.

Mr. Black is a member of the IHS Director's Executive Council, which is a decision-making body for the Agency on broad issues of policy, programs, and public health advocacy. The Council is composed of senior leadership from Headquarters, Area Offices, and the four IHS National Professional Councils.

In addition to other career training and education, Mr. Black earned an associate degree from Eastern Oklahoma State University, Wilburton, Oklahoma; a bachelor of arts degree from the University of Maryland, College Park, Maryland; and a master of public administration degree from the University of Southern California at Los Angeles.

Mr. Black has been the recipient of numerous public service honors and awards, including the IHS Group Award for the Office of Program Planning, the HHS Intergovernmental Management Program Award; the Assistant Secretary for Health's Award for Exceptional Achievement, the Public Health Service Special Recognition Award, and the HHS Secretary's Award for Distinguished Service. Mr. Black has also received an award for "significant contributions" from the National Indian Health Board.